

Top Story 1

India's GDP to grow between 6.5-6.7% in FY26 on strong demand:

An Private company recently projected economic growth at 6.5-6.7 per cent for the current fiscal, as tax incentives provided in the Budget are expected to push domestic demand amid an uncertain global trade environment. The company estimated India's GDP growth at 6.3-6.5 per cent for FY25 and said that the economic outlook for FY26 hinges on a delicate balance between evolving trade relations and government efforts to boost domestic consumer demand. "Growth this fiscal will be contingent on two opposing forces," said India Economy Outlook. The first factor would be the positive impact of tax incentives aimed at growing consumer spending (as announced in the Union Budget 2025). The second and opposing force would be the potential negative impact of uncertainty in global trade networks on the Indian economy.

https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/india-s-gdp-to-grow-between-6-5-6-7-in-fy26-on-strong-demand-deloitte-125050100407_1.html

Top Story 2

Creative economy can further increase its share in GDP, says PM Modi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday said that India's creative economy can further increase its contribution to the country's gross domestic product (GDP). He was speaking at the inauguration of the first World Audio Visual and Entertainment Summit (WAVES) being held in Mumbai. In India, the orange economy (consists of all industries related to creativity and intellectual property) is thriving, and content, creativity and culture are the three pillars of the orange economy, Modi said in his inauguration speech. The PM said that Indian films are now reaching every corner of the world, with they being released in more than 100 countries. "That is why today, a large number of foreign audiences are watching Indian content with subtitles. In India, the OTT (over the top) industry has seen a 10-time growth in the last few years. Even though the screen size is getting smaller, the scope is infinite," said Modi.

https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/creative-economy-s-contribution-has-increased-in-india-s-gdp-pm-modi-125050100496_1.html

Finance: -

Economy delivers a strong start to the fiscal with GST, UPI touching new highs

India's economy delivered a stellar start to the new fiscal, with the Goods and Services Tax collection rising to an all-time high and digital transactions continuing their double-digit growth, even as US and China, two major global economies faced pressure from tariff-related uncertainties. The US economy unexpectedly shrunk by 0.3 percent during the first quarter of 2025, its first contraction in nearly three years. On the other hand, China's factory activity contracted at the fastest pace in 16 months in April, data shared on May 1 showed. Experts indicate that the rush in exports to stave off the threat of tariffs may have a role to play. "The record GST collections underscore the Indian economy's underlying strength in the face of global economic uncertainties... The notable GST figures for April may have also been positively influenced by substantial exports to the US market prior to the announcement of reciprocal tariffs," said Saurabh Agarwal, Tax Partner, EY India.

<https://www.moneycontrol.com/news/business/economy/economy-delivers-a-strong-start-to-the-fiscal-with-gst-upi-touching-new-highs-13010357.html>

Market: -

India, EU make solid headway towards balanced, mutually free trade deal

Negotiations for the proposed free trade agreement between India and the European Union (EU) are moving on the right track and both sides are making "solid" headway towards a balanced and mutually beneficial deal. Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal is in Brussels to discuss progress of this trade agreement with European Commissioner for Trade and Economic Security Maros Sefcovic. Addressing media in Brussels, Sefcovic said that the European Union "deeply" values its partnership with India, and it is committed to take it to the next level by securing a commercially meaningful agreement, which opens up the markets for both goods and services. In today's climate of global uncertainty, he said, businesses of both regions are looking for opportunity, access and predictability, and that's what the two are working together to deliver.

https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/india-eu-make-solid-headway-towards-balanced-mutually-free-trade-deal-125050101177_1.html

Market: -

Rupee jumps 77 paise to 83.77 against US dollar in early trade

The rupee appreciated 77 paise to 83.77 against the US dollar in early trade on Friday, supported by sustained foreign fund inflows and stronger domestic data. The rupee appreciated 77 paise to 83.77 against the US dollar in early trade on Friday, supported by sustained foreign fund inflows and stronger demand. Moreover, a positive trend in domestic equities driven by foreign fund inflows further boosted sentiments. However, caution lingers, as they noted any escalation in tensions between India and Pakistan could swiftly reverse gains and pressurise the rupee, much like past geopolitical episodes.

<https://www.deccanherald.com/business/markets/rupee-jumps-77-paise-to-8377-against-us-dollar-in-early-trade-3521461>

Currency	Rate (Rs)	Change		Index	Change
USDINR	85.433	-0.096	NIFTY 50	23,851.65	414.45
EURINR	97	0.1215	BSE Sensex	78,553.20	1,508.91
GBPINR	113.321	0.0962			
JPYINR	0.60008	0.00101			